

2003, his message to Israel and to the international community during his election campaign was mixed. Now that he has taken office, results are to be expected in the form of a clear policy that terrorism and terrorist incitement in any form will not be tolerated within those territories under the control of the Palestinian Authority. I am hopeful, but only to the point of realistic expectation, that Mahmoud Abbas will take advantage of this opportunity and that a lasting peace will emerge.

THE SENIOR NUTRITION ACT

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. I rise today to introduce the Senior Nutrition Act, a bill I also introduced last year as H.R. 1021.

The intent of the Senior Nutrition Act is very simply to help more seniors get the food they need by changing eligibility standards for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, CSFP. Among other things, this will help offset the increasing cost of prescription drugs for many seniors.

The mission of the CSFP is to improve the health of both women with children and seniors by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA commodity foods. More than 400,000 people participate in the CSFP each month, but it is important to note that the majority of these participants—more than 75 percent—are elderly and that number is on the rise.

The average senior citizen pays around \$1,000 per year on prescription drugs. Many seniors who rely solely on Medicare for their health care cannot afford to buy prescription drugs, and are forced to either stretch their prescriptions, or to choose between purchasing medication or food.

The Senior Nutrition Act will provide for the following:

1. In those areas in which the CSFP operates, categorical eligibility is granted for seniors who participate or is eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program. No further verification of income would be necessary in such cases; and

2. The same income standard that is currently used to determine eligibility for women, infants, and children in the CSFP—185 percent of the Poverty Income Guidelines—would be applied to senior applicants as well. The current income eligibility standard for seniors has been capped by regulation at 130 percent.

Despite the addition of a Medicare prescription drug plan, many of our seniors still need help. We have an obligation to protect our most vulnerable citizens from having to make the awful choice of eating or taking their prescriptions. The Senior Nutrition Act will help protect the health and well being of our senior citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 17, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN HONOR OF THE AUDUBON CENTER AT ERNEST E. DEBS PARK, LOS ANGELES, CA

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with utmost pleasure and privilege that I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the National Audubon Society on the occasion of its centennial year. Founded in 1905 to protect birds from adorning ladies hats, the Audubon Society has come a long way and has grown into a nationally-recognized environmental organization. Audubon's current mission is not only to conserve endangered bird species, but also to preserve their natural habitats and ecosystems. Through a network of bird sanctuaries and community-based nature centers across the nation, Audubon is cultivating a spirit of environmental preservation in our communities.

The recent inauguration of the Audubon Center at Ernest E. Debs Park in the City of Los Angeles, and within my congressional district, is a unique example of how Audubon effectively connects people to nature. The Audubon Center is in the heart of one of the densest urban areas of Los Angeles, with 25,000 people per square mile, nearly four times the city average. Despite this challenge, Audubon has constructed a first-class facility focused on sustainable features such as renewable energy sources, water conservation, recycled building materials, and native landscaping. In the fall of 2003, the Audubon Center at Debs Park was awarded the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Platinum Rating by the U.S. Green Building Council, recognizing it as the most environmentally friendly building in the United States, and the second greenest building in the world. This notable achievement, however, is not the only reason the Audubon Center is special to Los Angeles. Even more substantial is that the Audubon Center at Debs Park is a safe haven for 282 acres of wilderness, 200 species of birds and animals, and for the tens of thousands of young children and families of Los Angeles.

True to its vision of educating the public on conservation issues, the Audubon Society worked for over 10 years to establish a center that would bring nature to the City of Los Angeles. Thanks to the collaboration of public and private funding, Angelenos can today appreciate a unique nature experience in their own backyard at the Audubon Center at Debs Park. Working families, who often do not have the time or the means for nature trips, now have the option of utilizing the educational and family programs offered by the Center. The site is prime ground for exploring and observing nature through its 282 acres of native walnut-oak woodland, grassland, and coastal sage scrub. The 5,023 square foot facility on site, which houses the children's programming and the administrative offices, also offers a unique opportunity to learn about conservation through its sustainable features. The building is supported by a 100 percent solar electrical system completely independent of the electrical power grid serving the Los Angeles area. Recycled materials, including melted down handguns and scrap metal, were used in the facility's construction wherever possible. Sustainable building materials were also used for the interior; furniture and cabinets were made from organic wheat board and organic sunflower board, both rapidly renewable materials and alternatives to wood.

By remaining faithful to its founding mission, the National Audubon Society has accomplished another historic milestone as it celebrates its first century of existence. The Audu-

bon Society has achieved an innovative and unique form of recreation, conservation, and education through the Audubon Center at Debs Park by maximizing nature, technology, and community support. Audubon plans to build similar centers nationwide to continue fostering the spirit of preservation that has inspired the over 12,000 visitors that have walked through the gates of the Audubon Center at Debs Park since its opening.

Mr. Speaker, as advocates, supporters, and friends begin centennial festivities nationwide, it is with great admiration and pride that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting the National Audubon Society for its visionary mission of engaging millions of people of all ages and inspiring them to celebrate and protect birds, nature, and life. At 100 years young, the National Audubon Society has much vigor and many ideas to share with all of us. We look forward to the next many years of fruitful endeavors with this great American Institution.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND CHARLIE DOOLEY OF ST. LOUIS, MO

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, my remarks today are to pay tribute to the life of the Reverend Mr. Charlie Dooley, of St. Louis, MO, husband of Lonnie Merl Dooley. Rev. Dooley's life was defined by dedication to his work, his church, and his family. Rev. Dooley worked for McDonnell Douglas Co. for thirty years without missing a single day of work. His devotion to his job was matched by his devotion to his church. He served as pastor of the Revelation Missionary Baptist Church from 1966 until his retirement in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, the outpouring of support by family, friends, and the community made it evident to all what an extraordinary person Rev. Dooley was. His wife, children, fourteen grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren are a great testament to who he was as a person. My prayers are with his family, friends, and community today, as we honor his life.

INTRODUCTION OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION ACT AND THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 BATTLEFIELDS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce two new bipartisan bills to provide more federal support for the preservation and protection of the endangered Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefields and related historic sites in New Jersey and many other states. I am especially pleased that U.S. Representatives JO ANN DAVIS, MAURICE HINCHEY, JOHN MCHUGH, ED MARKEY, JOHN SWEENEY, and MARK SOUDER have joined me as original cosponsors of this much-needed legislation.

In 1996, the Congress enacted the American Battlefield Protection Act, which established the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) within the U.S. National Park Service (NPS). At the same time, the Congress directed the U.S. Park Service to conduct a comprehensive study of endangered Revolutionary War and War of 1812 sites for

submission to the Congress, to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, and to the Office of Management and Budget. The U.S. Park Service study is to be completed in the coming spring and opened for at least a 90-day public comment period.

In my home state of New Jersey, many sites have already been surveyed and ranked highly for preservation. Preliminary surveys indicate that five New Jersey sites are in the most jeopardy (the Trenton, Princeton, and Monmouth Battlefields plus Fort Lee and the Second Springfield Battlefield) and three of those lie in the heart of the 12th Congressional District which I am privileged to represent.

Current federal law authorizes and appropriates monies from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for the preservation and protection of Civil War battlefields and related sites. One of my bills—the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act—would do the same for the hallowed battlefields of the Revolutionary War (e.g. Trenton, Princeton, Monmouth) and the War of 1812 and related historical sites that are also in danger of being lost forever. The enactment of this bill would allow National Park Service officials to collaborate with state and local governments, non-profit organizations, and concerned individuals to preserve and protect endangered Revolutionary War and War of 1812 historical sites on the priority lists of the forthcoming Park Service study and to provide up to 50 percent of the costs, for example, of purchasing battlefield land threatened by sprawl.

My second bill—The Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefields Commemorative Coin Act—would provide a non-federal financing mechanism to provide even more funding for the preservation and protection of endangered Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefields and related historical sites. It would authorize the minting of \$3.5 million in gold, silver, and clad commemorative coins to be sold to the public at surcharges of \$3–\$35, thus generating as much as \$23.5 million in seed money. Upon collection of these proceeds, the U.S. Treasury Secretary would transfer them to the non-partisan, non-profit Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefields Foundation to be used exclusively for these expressed preservation and protection purposes. It would cost U.S. taxpayers nothing. The greatest beneficiaries of these two bills would be future generations of Americans who will be able to relive more of the history of the Revolutionary War era and the War of 1812, the early development of our Nation, and the critically important roles played by the people of New Jersey and the other original thirteen colonies and the Northwest Territory.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REPRESENTATIVE CAROL BEGGS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, Carol Beggs was many things to many people. He was a friend, a husband, a father, a soldier, and a lawmaker. In all of these, and throughout all his life, Carol lived to serve others. As a young man in the Navy during World War II, then as a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserves, Carol served his country. As a commissioner, then mayor, in Salina, Kansas, he served his city. And finally, in his ten years in the Kansas House, Carol served his state.

However, Carol Beggs was so much more than his titles. He was a man of thoughtfulness and action. He knew what he believed in,

and he stood by his convictions. Though he faced tough decisions and took hard stances, Carol never lost his sense of humor. Even when disagreeing with fellow lawmakers, he knew how to lighten difficult moments and bring smiles to colleagues' faces.

His quick wit kept people smiling and laughing, and so did his harmonica. In the halls of statehouse, staff and members alike fondly recall Carol's rendition of "Danny Boy" floating through the halls.

There's nothing quite like "Danny Boy" being played on a harmonica, and Carol doing the playing made it even more special. I'm sure all who knew him think of him when they hear that song, more so now that he has passed.

Carol Beggs passed away Wednesday night, January 19, after a long battle with pneumonia. He was 77 years old. His wife, Betty, says he went peacefully, in his sleep.

Carol and Betty had been married for 54 years and had two sons, Dan and David. Up until it closed in 2000, the whole family helped run Beggs Yamaha Cycleland, a motorcycle shop Carol opened in 1949.

I feel blessed to have known and to have served in the state legislature with Carol Beggs. He was a member of the Greatest Generation, and like so many of that generation, self was secondary to others. Entrepreneur, veteran, statesman, and loving family man. Carol leaves behind a legacy of courage, honor, and service—and his life serves as an example to all of us.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 46, a resolution recognizing National Mentoring Month.

Across this country, millions of needy children wait patiently for mentors who will spend time with them, guide them and open the doors of opportunity for them.

Last week I rose on this Floor to speak of a resolution I introduced with my colleague—Congressman TOM OSBORNE from Nebraska—recognizing Big Brothers Big Sisters, our nation's most prominent mentoring organization. I spoke of my experiences as a Big Brother and the rewards that it has brought to me. Almost two decades after accepting the responsibility of being a Big Brother to another, I can tell you that it continues to be one of the most meaningful experiences of my life.

Eighteen years ago, I walked into the Big Brothers of Greater Los Angeles and I was matched with a young man, then 7 years old, named David. We started out going to the beach, the movies, roller skating and going to the park, or reading or talking with each other. He would criticize my taste in music, and I would tolerate his. We would spend time just catching up on each other's lives; and we became in a very short space of time, true brothers to each other. Now for almost two decades we have shared in each other's successes and failures and trials and tribulations. We have become family.

I cannot speak from the point of view of a mentee, but I can speak from the point of view of a mentor about how it has enriched my life. I encourage all Americans to pursue mentoring opportunities in their communities. Few things you will ever do will mean so much to another and to yourself.

David would have done well under any circumstance; but there are many, many young people who really need the benefit of a mentor, need the benefit of someone in their lives to help them gain direction, gain a sense of self-worth and a sense of purpose.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING MR. ORREN BEATY, JR.

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of a dear friend, Orren Beaty, Jr., devoted husband, father, grandfather, public servant, and United States Veteran. Mr. Beaty passed away in Las Cruces, New Mexico on January 19, 2005 at the age of 85.

A native of Clayton, New Mexico, Mr. Beaty graduated from New Mexico State University in 1940, specializing in history and government. Soon after, he served our nation in World War II as a radar navigator instructor for the B-29 bomber, and later served in the Air Force during the Korean War.

After his service, Mr. Beaty began his political and journalism career as the Managing Editor of the Sun News in Las Cruces and as a reporter, political writer, and columnist for the Arizona Republic. In 1955, he moved to Washington, D.C. to work as an administrative assistant for then-Representative Stewart Udall (D-Arizona). Six years later, when Mr. Udall was appointed Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Beaty served as his principal aide. His steadfast work ethic, unfaltering integrity, and dedication to public service were duly recognized, and Mr. Beaty was awarded the Interior Department's Distinguished Service Award.

In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Mr. Beaty as the Federal Co-chairman of the Four Corners Regional Commission within the Department of Commerce, where he collaborated with the governors of the four Southwestern states to promote economic development. In 1969, Mr. Beaty continued to serve in a succession of journalism, political, and lobbying positions including working on the Democratic presidential campaigns of Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine and Senator George S. McGovern of South Dakota. Mr. Beaty also served as the Associate Editor for Congressional Quarterly and as the Director of Congressional Liaison for Amtrak.

In the mid-1970's, Mr. Beaty became the President and Executive Director of the National Association of Railroad Passengers in Washington, and from 1976 until his retirement in 1988, he served as the Assistant General Manager of Western Fuels Association Inc., a coal supplier to rural cooperatives and municipal utilities. Throughout his career, Mr. Beaty garnered the respect and admiration of those fortunate to have worked with him.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the strong sense of service to others that defined Mr. Beaty's life. His passing marks a great loss for his family and friends, and also for his community. I extend my deepest condolences to his beloved wife of 60 years, Mary Turner Beaty; to his three children, Dr. Orren Beaty III, Laura Beaty, and Susana Michael; and to his five grandchildren, extended family, and dear friends. Mr. Beaty lived his life with compassion, energy, and an unwavering commitment to the public good. He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends, and his legacy will forever live on in the memories and hearts of those who knew and loved him well.